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Translation
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Japan-U.S. Bilateral CPX begins
JGSDF expresses gratitude for support

The Japan Ground Self-Defense Force, U.S. Army and other units conduct Japan-U.S. bilateral command post exercise “Yama Sakura”, and the opening ceremony was held at the Headquarters of Middle Army, in Itami City, Hyogo Prefecture on Jan. 30. LTG Wiercinski (55), commander of U.S. Army Pacific made remarks, “We should be all ready to be able to respond in case something happens.”

LTG Arakawa (57), commander of Middle Army, expressed appreciation of the U.S. Forces assistance in the Great East Japan Earthquake, saying, “Through this exercise, I hope the bond between Japan and U.S. will become deeper.”

According to the JGSDF, this CPX has been conducted every year in Japan and the U.S. since 1982. Hypothesizing a contingency in Japan, in order that both Japanese and the U.S. conduct bilaterally, both units will train with computer simulation. 4,500 JGSDF members and 1,500 U.S. Forces personnel participate in the exercise, and it will be conducted till Feb. 5. This time Australian Army will participate in this exercise as an observer for the first time.